pediatric ENT
ear infection management guide
**Otitis media with effusion algorithm**

1. **Diagnosis of suspicion of OME**
   - KAS1a: Perform pneumatic otoscopy
   - KAS1b: Obtain typanometry

2. **Patient & family education**
   - KAS6: Do not provide: Steroids, antibiotics, decongestants, or antihistamines
   - KAS9: Type B tympanogram in either ear?
     - TT-KAS8: Yes
       - TT-KAS9: Offer surgery
     - TT-KAS9: No
       - TT-KAS9: Watchful waiting: Re-evaluate 3 mos after onset or diagnosis

3. **Surgery**
   - KAS12b: Tympanostomy tubes alone
   - KAS9: Age >4 years?
     - KAS9: Yes
       - KAS9: Tympanostomy tubes alone
     - KAS9: No

4. **Newly diagnosed at risk child**
   - KAS4b: Re-evaluate at 12-18 mos old (if not already)

5. **Child with otalgia and/or hearing loss**

- KAS2: Obtain typanometry

**OME – Otitis media with effusion attribution symptoms**
**OME** present?

- **YES**
  - Obtain age appropriate hearing test if change in hearing or no prior testing
  - Surveillance every 3-6 months

- **NO**
  - At-Risk?
    - **NO**
      - Eardrum damage or symptoms
    - **YES**
      - TT-KAS4
  - **YES**
    - TT-KAS9
  - TT-KAS2
  - KAS9
  - KAS11
  - TT-KAS5

**At-Risk?**

- **YES**
  - TT-KAS2
  - KAS9
  - KAS11
  - TT-KAS5

**Bilateral **OME**?**

- **YES**
  - Hearing loss /20 dB HL or hearing difficulties?
  - **YES**
    - TT-KAS3
    - TT-KAS5
    - KAS10
  - **NO**
    - TT-KAS5
  - **NO**
    - KAS11
  - **NO**
    - KAS11

**Offer surgery**

**Surgery performed?**

- **YES**
  - Document at least one of the following:
    - Resolution of **OME**
    - Improved hearing
    - Improved QOL

- **NO**
  - At-Risk:
    - Other permanent hearing loss
    - Speech and language delay
    - Autism-spectrum or other pervasive developmental disorders
    - Syndromes or craniofacial disorders with cognitive, speech, and language delays
    - Blindness or uncorrectable visual impairment
    - Cleft palate
    - Other developmental delay

**OME attributable Symptoms:**

- Vestibular problems
- Poor school performance
- Behavioral problems
- Ear discomfort
- Reduced quality of life
- Recurrent acute otitis media

**Keys:**

- KSA: **OME** CPG key action statement
- TT-KAS: Tympanostomy tube CPG key action statement